

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 VOE-00 /013 W
-----281324Z 009777 /44

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8416
INFO USIA WASHDC
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

UNCLAS LAGOS 14361

KADUNA PASS KANO

E.O. 11652: N/W
TAGS: OEXC, NI
SUBJECT: MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECT ON VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

REF: STATE 289657/1

1. POST NOMINATES THEODORA SOWUNMI, ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT OFFICER, MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND INFORMATION,
OYO STATE FOR SUBJECT PROGRAM.

2. BIDATA FOLLOWS:

FULL NAME : MRS. THEODORA SOWUNMI

PRESENT POSITION: ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER,
MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND INFORMATION,
OYO STATE

PAST POSITIONS: PRINCIPAL SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER IN CHARGE OF
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS, MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
AND INFORMATION, WESTERN STATE, 1969-74:

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SENIOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER IN CHARGE OF
SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES, MINISTRY OF LOCAL
GOVERNMENT AND INFORMATION, WESTERN STATE,
1968-69:

SECOND SECRETARY (WELFARE), NIGERIAN HIGH

COMMISSION, LONDON, 1966-68:

STUDENT WELFARE OFFICER, NIGERIAN HIGH
COMMISSION, LONDON, 1961-66

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: SEPTEMBER 6, 1922, LAGOS, LAGOS STATE

PRESENT CITIZENSHIP: NIGERIAN, NONE PREVIOUS

PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO THE US: JULY-AUGUST, SAN FRANCISCO, 1975

PREVIOUS TRAVEL OTHER COUNTRIES: UNITED KINGDOM 1949-52,
1961-68, FRANCE 1962, SWITZERLAND 1964

PREVIOUS USG GRANT: NONE

VISA ELIGIBILITY: NAMECHECK SATISFACTORY, VISA ELIGIBLE

REASONS FOR NOMINATION: MRS. SOWUNMI HAS BEEN INVOLVED
IN THE PROGRAM PLANNING SIDE OF SOCIAL
WELFARE PROGRAMS IN THE OLD WESTERN STATE AND THE NEW OYO
STATE MINISTRIES FOR ALMOST A DECADE. SHE HAS BEEN
INTEGRALLY INVOLVED IN THE VOCATIONAL AND ADULT EDUCATION
EFFORTS OF THE REGION FOR MOST OF THAT TIME AND APPEARS TO
BE DESTINED FOR FURTHER RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE FUTURE. IN
CONVERSATIONS WITH THE ABPAO IN IBADAN, MRS. SOWUNMI
EMERGED AS RESOURCEFUL AND OPEN TO NEW AND INNOVATIVE
IDEAS, A PERSON WHO WOULD TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE
OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED BY THIS PROGRAM.

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OBJECTIVE OF US VISIT: THE U.S. IS PRE-EMINENT IN THE FIELD OF
PLANNED VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS WHICH
DEAL WITH TRAINING THE DISADVANTAGED AND THOSE WHO FOR
OTHER REASONS ARE NOT WELL EQUIPPED TO TAKE A VIABLE PLACE
IN THE NATIONAL WORK FORCE. IT IS A FIELD WHICH GOES TO THE
ROOT OF MANY OF THE FELT NEEDS HERE IN NIGERIA WHICH UNDERLIE
EFFORTS SUCH AS THE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION PROGRAM
(UPE.) NOT ONLY WILL THIS PROGRAM PROVIDE MRS. SOWUNMI
WITH A BROAD OVERVIEW OF THE VARIOUS PROGRAM OPTIONS
PRACTICED IN THE U.S. AND THEIR RELATIVE SUCCESS, BUT ALSO
AN INSIGHT INTO THE METHODS OF THE SOCIETY WHICH HAS
GENERATED THEM. AS A GAUGE OF AMERICAN AIMS NATIONALLY
AND BY INFERENCE INTERNATIONALLY, AMERICA'S PIONEERING ROLE
IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION SPEAKS WITH AN AUTHORITY WHICH IS
PERSUASIVE. NOMINATION WOULD SUPPORT POST OBJECTIVES I
AND III.

AVAILABILITY FOR US VISIT: JANUARY, 1977.

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